

SBA Number: 04-70

Release Date: April 19, 2004

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SBA ANNOUNCES MID YEAR LOAN FIGURES

HELENA, MT – Today, the SBA's Montana District Office announced its mid-year FY 2004 loan figures. During the first half of FY 2004 (October 1, 2003– March 31, 2004), SBA guaranteed 222 loans totaling \$29,505,661. Of these loans 212, totaling \$26,177,661 were made through SBA's 7(a) Guaranty Loan Program which provides short or long term financing for small business start-up or expansion needs. Ten loans totaling \$3,328,000 were made through SBA's 504 Certified Development Company program which provides long term fixed rate financing for land, buildings and equipment.

SBA financed 58 new businesses for \$5,312,161. The most frequently financed industries were: accommodations and food services, manufacturing, wholesale trade, other retail trade, and professional and technical services. Of the 222 loans, 55 loans totaling \$7,272,200 were made to women owned businesses, 24 loans totaling \$1,879,500 were made to veterans, 14 loans totaling \$2,013,200 were made to minority business owners, and 7 loans totaling \$1,441,000 were made to businesses involved in international trade.

The following lenders approved five or more loans:

(Figures **DO NOT** include participation in 504 CDC Financing)

Loans by Bank - # of Loans			
BANK NAME	CITY	\$	#
Innovative Bank	Oakland	\$116,000.00	16
Capital One Federal Savings Bank	McLean	\$630,000.00	15
Valley Bank Of Helena	Helena	\$202,200.00	13
Yellowstone Bank	Billings	\$1,352,800.00	11
First Security Bank	Missoula	\$1,568,600.00	10
Montana Community Finance Corporation	Helena	\$3,328,000.00	10
Mountain West Bank National Association	Helena	\$2,069,900.00	9
Western Security Bank	Billings	\$1,457,500.00	7
Stockman Bank Of Montana	Billings	\$616,000.00	6
Sterling Savings Bank	Billings	\$865,600.00	6
Mountain West Bank National Association	Missoula	\$2,095,000.00	6

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The following lenders exceeded \$500,000 in total SBA loan volume:
(These figures **DO NOT** include participation in 504 CDC Financing)

Loans by Bank – Dollar Volume			
BANK NAME	CITY	\$	#
Montana Community Finance Corporation	Helena	\$3,328,000.00	10
Mountain West Bank National Association	Missoula	\$2,095,000.00	6
Mountain West Bank National Association	Helena	\$2,069,900.00	9
First Security Bank	Missoula	\$1,568,600.00	10
Western Security Bank	Billings	\$1,457,500.00	7
Yellowstone Bank	Billings	\$1,352,800.00	11
Independence Bank	Poplar	\$1,000,000.00	2
First Citizens Bank	Butte	\$922,500.00	5
American Federal Savings Bank	Helena	\$907,500.00	2
Sterling Savings Bank	Billings	\$865,600.00	6
Mountain West Bank National Association	Great Falls	\$792,600.00	4
Rocky Mountain Bank	Billings	\$772,000.00	2
Capital One Federal Savings Bank	McLean	\$630,000.00	15
Stockman Bank Of Montana	Billings	\$616,000.00	6
First National Bank	Butte	\$592,700.00	3
Mountain West Bank National Association	Kalispell	\$501,000.00	2

Certified Development Company – 504 Loans

Montana Community Finance Corporation – Helena	3,328,000	10
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Holding Company – Dollar Volume		
Holding Company	\$	#
Mountain West Financial Corporation	\$5,312,000.00	22
Glacier Bancorp, Inc.	\$3,359,300.00	31
Yellowstone Holding Company	\$1,665,800.00	16
Stockman Financial Corporation	\$1,339,800.00	11
First Interstate Bancsystem, Inc	\$1,308,000.00	10
Montana Security Inc	\$1,040,000.00	3
Butte Bank Shares, Inc.	\$930,000.00	5
Sterling Financial Corporation	\$915,600.00	7
Eagle Bancorp	\$907,500.00	2
First National Bancorp, Inc.	\$889,700.00	7

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Holding Company - # of Loans		
Holding Company	\$	#
Glacier Bancorp, Inc.	\$3,359,300.00	31
Mountain West Financial Corporation	\$5,312,000.00	22
Innovative Bank	\$116,000.00	16
WFC Holdings Corporation	\$672,300.00	16
Yellowstone Holding Company	\$1,665,800.00	16
Capital One Financial Corporation	\$630,000.00	15
Stockman Financial Corporation	\$1,339,800.00	11
First Interstate Bancsystem, Inc	\$1,308,000.00	10
Sterling Financial Corporation	\$915,600.00	7
First National Bancorp, Inc.	\$889,700.00	7

Counties exceeding \$1.0 million in SBA guaranteed loans:

County name	\$	#
Yellowstone	\$5,878,961.00	47
Missoula	\$3,600,900.00	18
Gallatin	\$3,270,300.00	21
Lewis & Clark	\$3,008,100.00	30
Flathead	\$2,658,700.00	18
Silver Bow	\$1,195,200.00	9
Cascade	\$1,181,900.00	16
Roosevelt	\$1,090,000.00	3
Stillwater	\$1,089,500.00	7

Counties with five or more loan approvals:

County name	\$	#
Yellowstone	\$5,878,961.00	47
Lewis & Clark	\$3,008,100.00	30
Gallatin	\$3,270,300.00	21
Flathead	\$2,658,700.00	18
Missoula	\$3,600,900.00	18
Cascade	\$1,181,900.00	16
Ravalli	\$854,300.00	10
Silver Bow	\$1,195,200.00	9
Stillwater	\$1,089,500.00	7
Deer Lodge	\$917,000.00	6

For more information on SBA programs and services, visit www.sba.gov or contact the Montana SBA District Office at (406) 441-1081 or toll free at 1-800-776-9144 ext. 2.

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